MICHAEL WALTON
P.O. Box 751
San Anselmo, CA 94979
(415) 456-7920
Attorney for Michael and Solina Walton

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIN

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY INTERNATIONAL, a California not-for-profit religious corporation,

Plaintiff,

vs.

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GERALD ARMSTRONG; MICHAEL )
WALTON; THE GERALD ARMSTRONG )
CORPORATION, a California for)
profit corporation; DOES 1 )
through 100, inclusive, )

Defendants.

CASE NO. 157 680

DEFENDANTS MICHAEL AND SOLINA
WALTON'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR AN ORDER COMPELLING
COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDER

Date: April 6, 1995 Time: 11:00 A.M.

Dept: Law Office of William Benz

Trial: May 18, 1995

Discovery Cut-off: March 16,1995

Defendants, Michael and Solina Walton (hereinafter the "WALTONS") object to and oppose plaintiff's (hereinafter "Scientology") Motion For An Order Compelling Compliance With Court Order.

I.

#### SCIENTOLOGY MISSTATES THE COURT'S ORDER IN RELIANCE UPON MOTION

The original trial date in this matter was September 24, 1994. Scientology requested a continuance which was granted. Subsequent to the September 24, 1994 date, Scientology initiated discovery.

Defendants, Michael and Solina Walton objected to any such discovery on the grounds that discovery had been terminated by way of the 30 day rule which attaches to the ORIGINAL trial date. Scientology then petitioned the court for permission to complete discovery. On December 16, 1994, the Honorable Gary Thomas ruled that, "Plaintiff's motion for leave to complete discovery is granted. The new discovery cut-off date March 16, 1995". See Exhibits C and E to the Declaration of Laurie J. Bartilson in support of the instant motion. Both exhibits contain copies of the proposed order prepared by plaintiff's attorney and submitted to Michael Walton for signature. While it is clear that Judge Thomas reopened discovery through March 16, 1995, he did not speak to the issue of the appropriateness of any particular discovery (which he had already ordered to be the responsibility of the discovery referee). There was no ruling with respect any item of discovery.

Scientology's argument is not substantiated by Judge Thomas' ruling. Scientology's subsequent discovery indicates its knowledge that Judge Thomas was not reopening discovery for the two specific items that plaintiff referenced in its moving papers. Plaintiff has since served Michael Walton with Interrogatories and Requests For Admission, items not referenced in their moving papers to Judge Thomas. With the general order to reopen discovery comes the necessary requisite that any such discovery is proper in both form and content. In its order that Scientology be allowed to complete discovery, the court did not place any restriction on discovery nor did it rule on any specific discovery request. Plaintiff, until

March 16, 1995, could have utilized any authorized discovery device regarding any matter properly discoverable which complied with the rules of civil procedure.

Finally, Scientology argues that it "brought a motion to compel inspection of the property" (page 4, line 19 of Scientology's Points and Authorities). Scientology blatantly misrepresents the character of the motion to this referee. See Scientology's "Exhibit A" (Motion to Complete Discovery) which is an altogether different thing than a motion to compel. Scientology never brought a motion to compel and never obtained a ruling on any specific discovery request.

12 II.

### A MOTION TO COMPEL IS THE PROCEDURE TO ENFORCE CCP 2031 DEMAND

Scientology's Demand For Inspection of Real Property was brought pursuant to CCP 2031. (See Exhibit D to Declaration of Laurie J. Bartilson in support of the instant motion. A motion to compel is the procedure to enforce compliance with a CCP Section 2031 demand. (CCP 2031(1)). However, the motion must be served within 45 days after the service of the response in question, extended by five days if served by mail (CCP 1013(a)). If the motion is not timely served, the party waives the right to compel any further response to the CCP 2031 demand. The 45 day deadline runs from the date the response is served, not from the date originally set for production or inspection. (CCP 2031 (1), Standon Co., Inc. v Sup. Ct.(Kim)(1990), 225 CA3d 898, 903, 275 CR 833, 835.

Scientology served the Waltons Demands For Inspection of Real Property on September 27, 1994 (see Exhibit 1 to Michael Walton's Declaration in opposition to the instant motion). The Waltons responded by objection on October 17, 1994. (See Exhibit 2 to Michael Walton's Declaration in opposition to the instant motion). Scientology's remedy was to serve a motion to compel within 45 days of October 17, 1994. It did not.

Ignoring CCP 2031, Scientology again served the Waltons with a Demand For Inspection of Real Property on December 19, 1994. (See Exhibit D to the Bartilson declaration). The Waltons again responded by way of objection. (See Exhibit 3 to the Walton declaration). The civil code is clear that a party has 45 days from the date of service of the response to bring a motion to compel to enforce compliance with a CCP 2031 demand. Simply re-serving the same demand does not start the clock all over again. However, even if it did, Scientology would still not have complied with the code in that more than 45 days has passed since the Waltons responded to the second identical request to inspect their home and Scientology, still ignoring CCP 2031 (1), did not attempt to file a motion to compel further response.

Scientology has waived its right to compel any further response.

23 III.

## DISCOVERY CUT-OFF ON MARCH 16,1995

If it were not enough that Scientology ignores CCP 2031 in attempting this discovery, it also ignores Judge Thomas' specific

ruling that the discovery cut-off was on March 16, 1995. This attempt at discovery is doubly timed barred. There is no more discovery in this action.

IV.

#### OBJECTIONS TO INSPECTION OF WALTONS' RESIDENCE

Even if Scientology's attempt at this discovery were not time barred, defendants' objections to the discovery are valid and would, on there own, prevent such discovery.

On two prior occasions, the Waltons timely objected to an inspection of their home. The basis for these objections was, inter alia, that the inspection was irrelevant, burdensome and oppressive, violative of right to privacy, harassive and not calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

Scientology seeks to recover money damages. Scientology has not yet proven that it is entitled to money damages from defendants SOLINA and MICHAEL WALTON, yet it attempts at every opportunity to conduct asset checks of the defendants. To date, the discovery referee has disallowed Scientology's attempts to discover the value of the assets of these defendants. The current value of the Walton residence has no relevance to this lawsuit nor does it have any relevance to the value of the property in the summer of 1990 which is when Armstrong and Walton purchased the property and when Armstrong subsequently transferred his interest to Walton.

Scientology has no judgment against Mr. or Ms. Walton nor any legitimate claim to know the value of any of Waltons' assets. Such has been the consistent ruling from the discovery referee. Even in

the unlikely event that Scientology should obtain a money judgment against the Waltons at some time in the future, the then value of the family home would only become relevant if the Waltons were unable to satisfy such a judgment by other means.

The request by Scientology to "inspect" the Walton residence is a simple act of harassment and part of Scientology's vicious litigation technique. In the language of the cult of Scientology it is called "Fair Game". One of the directions of "Fair Game" is to "sue". One of Scientology's litigation techniques it calls, "Dev-T", short for "developed traffic" which means "unusual or unnecessary traffic" or, as a verb, to generate such unusual and unnecessary traffic; or to cause someone to do unnecessary work.

#### V. CONCLUSION

Scientology has blatantly misstated the facts and ignored the law in bringing this motion. It has brought this motion wrongfully and in bad faith. Defendants have fully complied with Judge Thomas' ruling of December 16, 1994.

Just as Scientology recently argued that Mr. Armstrong should be sanctioned for attempting irrelevant discovery in a non code approved manner, so should Scientology be sanctioned for bringing this motion which was not founded on the order of Judge Thomas, not relevant, not timely and not the proper vehicle for enforcing compliance with a CCP 2031 demand; i.e., attempting irrelevant discovery in a non code approved manner.

Defendants request that Scientology's motion be denied and pursuant to CCP 2023(b)((1) and 2030(1), Scientology and its

1 attorneys be ordered to pay defendants fees and costs in the amount 2 of \$900 in attorney's fees and any and all fees related to this 3 motion charged by the referee. In addition, defendants request that pursuant to CCP 128.5, Scientology and its attorneys be further 4 sanctioned in the amount of \$1500 their 5 for blatant 6 misrepresentation of facts to this referee regarding the contents of Judge Thomas' order relied upon by Scientology in bringing this 7 8 motion.

9 Dated: March 30, 1995

10 Michael Walton

12 Attorney for

13 Michael and Solina Walton

# PROOF OF SERVICE BY HAND DELIVERY STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MARIN

I am a resident of the county aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within entitled action; my business address is 700 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 120, Larkspur CA 94939.

On March 31, 1995, I served the within DEFENDANTS MICHAEL AND SOLINA WALTON'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR AN ORDER COMPELLING COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDER and DECLARATION OF MICHAEL WALTON in support of said opposition on the interested parties by hand delivery as follows:

Laurie J. Bartilson Andrew Wilson Wilson, Ryan & Campilongo 115 Sansome, 4th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104

Gerald Armstrong 715 Sir Francis Drake San Anselmo, CA 94960

Mr. William Benz 900 Larkspur Landing Circle, #185 Larkspur, CA 94939

Executed on March 31, 1995 at San Anselmo, California.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.